



## **RANDOLPH COUNTY** **Department of Social Services**

**Beth W. Duncan**  
Director

**Samuel R. Frazier**  
Board Chair

“Social Work: Forging Solutions Out of Challenges”

March is National Social Worker Appreciation month. Social Workers daily embody this year’s theme, “Forging Solutions Out of Challenges,” by helping individuals, communities and the larger society tackle and solve issues that confront them. The primary mission of the Social Work profession is to enhance well-being and help meet the basic needs of all people, especially the most vulnerable in society. Social Workers confront some of the most challenging issues facing families, older adults, and communities, forging solutions to help people reach their full potential and make our nation a better place to live.

Social Workers work in all areas of our society to improve happiness, health and prosperity, including in government, schools, universities, non-profit social service agencies, communities, the military, and mental health and health care facilities. Randolph County Department of Social Services employs 51 social workers that focus on local government legally mandated social work such as Child Protective Services, Foster Care, Adoptions, Foster Home Licensing, Adult Protective Services, Adult Services, and Work First.

Social Work is one of the fastest growing careers in the United States with more than 640,000 members of the profession. Social Workers are the largest group of mental health care providers in the United States and daily work to help people overcome depression, anxiety, substance abuse and other disorders so they can lead more fulfilling lives. The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs employs more than 12,000 professional Social Workers and Social Workers help bolster our nation’s security by providing support to active duty military personnel, veterans and their families. Thousands of child, family and school Social Workers across the country provide assistance to protect children and improve the social and psychological functioning of children and their families. Social Workers help children find loving homes and create new families through adoption. Social Workers in schools work with families and schools to foster future generations by ensuring students reach their full academic and personal potential. Social Workers work with older adults and their families to improve their quality of life and ability to live independently as long as possible and get access to quality mental health and health care. As we continue moving into the 21st century our nation still grapples with complex challenges, social workers will be in the fray, helping our nation forge a path to a better future.

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